



THE FIRELINE



Summer 06

State Fire Training
1131 S Street
Box 944246
Sacramento 94244

The Fireline is Back

It has been awhile, but The Fireline is back in the business of bringing you the latest information about California's State Fire Training (SFT) program.

The SFT program is involved in a major overhaul and we will be bringing you updates on that process. In this edition, we have news about the newly updated SFT Policies and Procedures Manual. Some revisions are small changes; some will make a bigger impact. You are concerned about fire training and we believe these are issues you will want to know.

The SFT program is also looking for **more great instructors** and we have started delivering the Regional Instructor Orientations to get them ready to provide the high standards of fire service training that we expect in California.

We have **personnel** changes to tell you about as well. Some of our old friends have moved on, but we also have some bright new faces on board. We will continue to introduce you to the people who take your phone calls, process your paperwork, and see to it that you get the certificate that represents all of your hard work.

The Fireline will be updated regularly throughout the year to bring you the information you need to benefit from the State Fire Training program.

New Chief of State Fire Training

Division Chief Mike Richwine has taken over as Chief of State Fire Training and has already set a busy agenda for himself. In his letter that follows, Chief Richwine will tell you about some of the plans he has for the future of fire training. But first, we want to tell you a little about him.

Chief Richwine has 25 years of experience in the fire service starting as a fire fighter with the City of Hanford Fire Department in 1980. In 1986, he joined the Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) as a Deputy State Fire Marshal in the Coastal Region. He has been the Hazardous Materials Coordinator, a Fire Service Training Specialist III, the Operations Coordinator to the Assistant Deputy Director and Division Chief of Fire Engineering.

Chief Richwine has been a member of CDF Incident Command Teams for the past eight years. He has coordinated training programs in haz mat, rescue systems, the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), and the Fire Service Training and Education System (FSTEP). However, he considers his job as the Chief of State Fire Training his biggest challenge.

Letter from the Chief

By Mike Richwine

Welcome to the Summer 2006 edition of The Fireline. Our goal is to provide you with the latest information regarding SFT programs, projects, and events. Since our last publication, SFT has witnessed the same succession and growing pains as many fire departments are experiencing. Specifically, Art Cota retired as the Chief of State Fire Training and 16 years of knowledge and experience left with him. In addition to succession planning, SFT is also addressing a number of issues in a two-year work plan to improve customer service and enhance the quality of our training programs. You can find the work plan here: <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/pdf/firemarshal/workplan.pdf>



Upcoming Event

STEAC Meeting

October 20, 2006

Sacramento

Since my appointment as the Chief of State Fire Training, I have had the opportunity to meet with many of our customers and stakeholders and I am encouraged by the numbers of fire chiefs, training officers, and fire fighters who have offered to help in any capacity to improve curricula, certification processes, and delivery systems of State Fire Training. I am also encouraged by the support of CDF Director and State Fire Marshal Ruben Grijalva who identified State Fire Training as one of his top five priorities to address during his administration. Assistant State Fire Marshal Kate Dargan is contributing additional resources to the division to ensure we can meet the demands of fire fighters, fire officers, and chief officers who participate in our system.

Key to short- and long-term success is the Statewide Training Education Advisory Committee (STEAC). STEAC was reconvened in October 2005 with former State Fire Marshal Ronny Coleman as the Chair. The committee represents fire chiefs, training officers, labor, community college fire training directors, and other organizations with a vested interest in the SFT system. STEAC roster, minutes, and meeting announcements are found on the State Fire Marshal website <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/STEAdvComm.html>

Finally, I am pleased to announce a partnership with the California Fire Chiefs Association to hire former Fire Chief Bill Sager as consultant to develop a SFT corporate plan that will shape the future of SFT in the both the short- and long-term. Recently, a three-day vision-scoping summit was held that identified critical elements that need to be addressed to ensure a solid future for SFT. The Fireline will bring you more information as the future of State Fire Training unfolds.

Comings and Goings

Ruben Grijalva	Named Director of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection by Governor Schwarzenegger. He will retain the title of State Fire Marshal until his successor is named.
Kate Dargan	Named Assistant State Fire Marshal by Governor Schwarzenegger. She declared upgrading State Fire Training as one of her priorities.
Mike Richwine	Appointed to Chief of State Fire Training.
Art Cota	Retired as Chief of State Fire Training after 16 years. He is now the Fire Chief of Shasta College.
Bob Lucchesi	Retired as Fire Service Training Specialist after 22 year. He is now the Fire Chief for Paramount Pictures.

COURSE
SCHEDULING FAX

(916) 552-9464

NEW NUMBER
just for
Course Scheduling!

Lisa Powell	Transferred as a Staff Services Analyst for SFT Accounting Services to Cal Trans.
Melinda Smith	Promoted to Staff Services Analyst for SFT Accounting Services.
Kim Hines	Promoted to Management Services Technician for SFT EMT-I and fire fighter processing.

Request for Course Scheduling Forms

Along with an updated SFT Bookstore Order Form, we have updated all of the Request for Course Scheduling forms. They are now available to download from our website. Don't forget that there are several different forms to choose from, depending upon the type of class you want to teach... CFSTES, FSTEP, EMT, and Rescue Systems.

Troubleshooting your Request

Submit your requests at least 6 weeks in advance of the beginning date of the class to ensure that your course materials will arrive in a timely manner. Verify the instructor listed as the primary is registered with State Fire Training for the subject. Finally, ensure the class beginning and ending dates are in accordance with the minimum number of hours and/or delivery schedule required for the course.

Course requests are available at: <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/sftdownloads.html>

You may submit your course requests by email, fax, or mail to:

Connie Tepner, P.O. Box 944246, Sacramento, CA 94244
Fax: (916) 552-9464 FAX Email: connie.tepner@fire.ca.gov

SFT Policies and Procedures Manual

Revised and Updated

As fire service professionals, we all understand the need for standardized yet contemporary rules, procedures, and guidelines; and we at State Fire Training recognize the concern of the California fire service for standardization of the programs managed by State Fire Training. This document is intended to provide that standardization. The evolution of State Fire Training over the past thirty years has been a very dynamic process. As the training and certification systems have grown and matured, many changes have occurred in our operational procedures since the first CFSTES Policies and Procedures Manual was issued in 1985. In many instances, these changes have necessitated revision of existing requirements and the development of new ones.

The newly updated SFT Policies and Procedures Manual is now available online at <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/pdf/training/sftproceduresmanual.pdf>. As with any document published by State Fire Training, we have attempted to include all the information that you, the user, might find useful. If, however, you do not find the information you need or have a question regarding the application of a procedure, please contact us.

Highlights

The following sections have been added to the manual or revised:

- State Fire Training Committees
- Certification Review Process (PACE I)
- Accredited Regional/Local Academies
- Primary Instructor Qualifications

- Fire Investigator I certification requirements
- Chief Officer certification requirements
- Confined Space Rescue Operations
- Rescue Systems 1
- California Incident Command Certification System

Primary Instructor Qualification Revisions

CFSTES Instructors

If you are interested in becoming registered to teach a CFSTES course, the following qualification has been added effective July 1, 2006:

Ethical Leadership in the Classroom

New CFSTES instructors applying after June 30, 2007 must have attended and passed the OSFM Ethical Leadership in the Classroom course. Current CFSTES instructors must attend and pass this class by June 30, 2007.

FSTEP Instructors

If you are interested in becoming registered to teach a FSTEP course, the following qualifications have been added effective July 1, 2006.

Regional Instructor Orientation

New instructor applicants will be required to attend the Regional Instructor Orientation prior to submitting an instructor application. If you are a current FSTEP instructor who has not taken the RIO, your instructor status will not change. However, if you apply to teach additional FSTEP courses in the future, attending the RIO will be required before your application can be accepted.

Attend and Pass the OSFM Course

Instructor applicants will be required to attend and pass the FSTEP course they are requesting to teach. In most instances, these will be OSFM courses and will require submitting a copy of our FSTEP certificate. Applicants requesting to teach ICS courses can submit course completion certificates from other agencies.

Ethical Leadership in the Classroom

New FSTEP instructors applying after June 30, 2007 must have attended and passed the OSFM Ethical Leadership in the Classroom course. Current FSTEP instructors must attend and pass this class by December 31, 2007.

Certification Requirement Changes

Fire Investigator I

One of the educational requirements for this level of certification is to have completed a PC 832: Laws of Arrest module. The change to this requirement is that the training must be completed within three years of applying for Fire Investigator I certification. This time requirement will be waived if you are a currently employed peace officer in California.

Chief Officer

One of the requirements for Chief Officer certification was to have a minimum of 1 years experience at the officer level within a California fire department. The change to this requirement is an increase in the number of years from one (1) to two (2). As with all certifications, performing in an "acting" capacity does not qualify.

Upcoming Event

Training Officers Fall
Symposium

November 13-17,
2006

🌿 Fresno 🌿

Upcoming Events

☞ PACE II ☞ Instructor Registration

Application Due Date:
August 31, 2006

Meeting Date:
September 14, 2006

Monrovia SFM HQ

Certification Review Changes

Since April 1993, the certification review process was accomplished on a quarterly basis using a committee comprised of Fire Chiefs, Training Officers, certified Fire Officers, and other interested and qualified fire service personnel to review applications for certification. This was the beginning of the Peer Assessment for Certification Evaluation or PACE I committee.

The PACE I committee system worked, and worked well, for many years. SFT staff committed themselves to consistent, quarterly meetings and the 5-day deadline for mailing certificates was being met. In recent years, however, the PACE I review process was becoming dysfunctional. With the increase in applications, staff time to prepare for each meeting was taking weeks instead of days and mailing out results was taking even longer.

As of April 2006, the certification review process is once again assigned to SFT staff. Michelle Aulisio is charged with reviewing all applications for certification that were once the responsibility of the PACE I committee. Her goal is to turn around each application within three weeks of receiving it. Keep in mind, however, new applications submitted with payment may take up to five weeks to be processed by the accounting office before Michelle receives them.

PACE II Membership Drive

Are you interested in the quality of State Fire Training? Are you a fire officer, training officer, registered SFT instructor, or member of the community college fire technology system? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you may want to apply for a position on one of the two PACE II workgroups.

During your two-year term, you will be qualifying the State Fire Training instructors of the future. Once selected, you will be expected to attend two meetings per year in your region. The Northern California section will meet in Sacramento, the Southern California section in Monrovia. Members will review instructor applications, resumes, correspondence, and other communications relative to teaching SFT's CFSTES and FSTEP classes.

Sandy Margullis, the PACE II Coordinator, is looking for 16 qualified individuals (eight for the South and eight for the North), who can make this two-year commitment. If you are interested, please contact Sandy Margullis at (916) 445-8154 or sandy.margullis@fire.ca.gov

Ethical Leadership in the Classroom

Have you ever been asked to change a student's grade?

Has your Battalion Chief been one of your students and expected special treatment?

Have you been unfamiliar with a topic you were asked to teach, but agreed to teach it anyway?

As an instructor, you frequently face ethical situations in the classroom. These situations may be created by students, employers, or other instructors. Do you address these situations confidently? Do you understand how ethical decisions are made and the potential impacts of your decisions? This one-day course is designed to:

- ◆ Provide you with concepts and theories of the ethical decision-making process
- ◆ Help you recognize the signs of an ethical dilemma
- ◆ Identify advantages and disadvantages of ethical behavior

CICCS
historical recognition
expired on
December 31, 2005

Upcoming Event

Next RIO

September 21, 2006

Ontario

- ◆ Review examples of classroom situations in which instructors used their leadership

Participants in this class will examine ethics, values, principles, and morality. State Fire Training's Instructor Code of Ethics/Conduct will also be presented.

Primary Instructors Needed

With the requirement for all State Fire Training instructors to attend this class, a need for additional instructors registered to teach this class is critical. The requirements can be found on pages 60-61 in the SFT Policies and Procedures Manual. If you are interested in becoming this much-in-demand instructor, download and complete an application and send it to Sandy Margullis.

California Incident Command Certification System (CICCS)

Every year, California is assaulted by wildland fires that are catastrophic to our citizens, economy, and natural resources. Wildland fires are often large in scale, devastating thousands of acres of timber, homes, ecologically and historically sensitive areas, and often require hundreds and sometimes thousands of fire fighters to quell. To suppress these fires, managers must be able to understand and predict wildfire behavior and know how to coordinate air and ground firefighting operations. They must be able to coordinate many different projects at once and see the "big picture" as the efforts of hundreds of people come together. Urban firefighters are often called to serve in unfamiliar wildland environments when these wildfires approach their communities.

The Office of State Fire Marshal tasked a committee of the State Board of Fire Services members with developing a certification system to train and qualify our firefighters for all of the situations they may face. It is our intent and goal that the CICCS will prepare our fire fighters to respond to all types of incidents by clearly identifying certification criteria.

Based on the National Wildfire Coordinating Group's 310-1, the CICCS is designed to be managed at local, regional, and state levels. CICCS provides a road map for new resources to be certified as well as recognizing those individuals who have already completed equivalent training and are already functioning at these levels.

The historical recognition period for certification ended December 31, 2005. For current certification requirements, refer to the CICCS section in the SFT Policies and Procedures Manual.



Going to RIO?

Does RIO conjure up images of magnificent mountains, incredible beaches, and Carnivale - the biggest party on Earth? Well, now that we have you in the mood we are actually inviting you to the other RIO – the Regional Instructor Orientation. State Fire Training staff teach the newly updated RIO class. Their collective experience leads to some good stories, sage advice, and fun breakout

sessions. Participants learn the background and history of State Fire Training, statutory responsibilities, funding, class scheduling processes, and instructor responsibilities. For a list of classes go to:

http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/pdf/training/SCHEDULE_MASTER.pdf

Instructor Database Upgrade

State Fire Training is in the process of converting the current instructor database, which has more than 3,000 names on it, to a new system. We started this conversion using information on our "active" instructors. We consider you an active instructor if you have taught a CFSTES or FSTEP class within the past three years.

To ensure that only current instructor data is going into the new and improved database, we are asking registered instructors to provide us with their current information. Please complete the Instructor Profile Update link in the "Downloads" section of the SFT webpage at

<http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/TrainingInstructorProfile.html>

The current instructor database, that was once available on the website, is no longer active. It will be reactivated once the database conversion is complete.



Meet Michelle

Congratulations to Michelle Aulisio. She was recently promoted to Management Services Technician (MST) within the State Fire Training program. With the elimination of the PACE I committee, Michelle's primary responsibility is reviewing applications for certification. This devoted resource should speed up the certification process and provide even better service to you, our customers.

EMT-I Instructor Orientation

State Fire Training's EMT-I Instructor Orientation is designed to prepare the EMS trainer to deliver EMT-I basic and refresher classes. Topics of discussion include: The EMSA approved EMT-I curriculum, statutes and regulations governing the EMT-I programs, National Registry Exam, OSFM certification, State Fire Training policies and procedures, review of important instructional techniques and classroom management.

Course Prerequisites

- Fire Instructor 1A and 1B
- Two years experience in EMS
- Current EMT-I certificate or higher. Previously, EMT-P licenses could be expired. However, current regulations do not allow any medical credential to be expired.

Students attending the update class will receive the following:

- ❶ Emergency Care, Brady, 10th Edition, Student Text, Instructor's Resource Manual.
- ❷ State Fire Training's EMT-I Policies and Procedures.
- ❸ Required Skill Sheets and Verification Form.
- ❹ 18 hours of Category I continuing education.

Our next scheduled class will be held October 2-6, 2006 in Monterey, California

To register, please call:
Natalie Rodda
(831) 646-4240

Upcoming Event

🌀 EMT IO 🌀

October 2-6, 2006

Monterey

Bill Sager

Planning for the Future

State Fire Training is beginning a makeover - an evolution if you will. Retired CDF Unit Chief Bill Sager is developing a Strategic Plan that will be the template for that change. He is quick to add that many stakeholders in the process are contributing and he is "gathering their ideas, inspirations, and visions and compiling them into a coherent plan."

Recognizing the need for major updates in many areas within SFT, Assistant State Fire Marshal Kate Dargan tapped Chief Sager to evaluate what we have now, and create a plan to get us where we want to go. Because of his many years of



experience with and support of fire training, Chief Sager seems to be the perfect man for the job. During his long career with CDF, he was a trainer, course developer, and training officer. He retired as the Chief of the Butte Unit and everyone who worked for him knew of his support for training. "Properly trained fire fighters are efficient and effective fire fighters," Sager declares. "I love to watch old-hand fire fighters and company officers in action. Because of their training and experience they seem to do the impossible effortlessly."

Funded by CFCA, the Strategic Plan will provide a framework for developing and delivering the best possible fire training around the state, as well as guide in budget change proposals to support that process. Chief Sager says this plan is different from previous efforts because serious funding has been provided for the planning effort, the plan is supported by CDF Director and State Fire Marshal Ruben Grijalva, and STEAC is reenergized under the leadership of former State Fire Marshal Ronny Coleman. "In a sense, all of the stars are properly aligned to ensure that this plan does not sit on the shelf and gather dust."

Chief Sager added, "The final draft of the new strategic plan will be presented to the training officers at their annual meeting in November in Fresno. That will be exciting."

BOOKSTORE FAX

(916) 445-4178

NEW NUMBER
just for the Bookstore!

Bookstore Order Form

A newly formatted and revised SFT Bookstore Order Form is available to download at <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/pdf/training/SFMBOOKSTOREFORM.pdf>. Start using this new order form immediately. We have deleted some manuals from our inventory, while some new titles have been added.

The Dream Team!

Student Assistants Help with Workload

This year, the OSFM has a dream team of students whose background and interest cover a wide range of academic subjects and whose job skills bring a high level of proficiency and expertise.

This year's dream team includes:

- Justin Bibler (English, CSUS)
- Anita Chandra (Business Sacramento City College)



- Megan Crookham (International Studies, CSUS)
- Sangchin (Sang) Park (Math, CSUS)
- Jake Richey (Fire Science, American River College)
- Angela Windtbert (Dental Hygiene, Consumnes River College)

The dream team is funded in part by Homeland Security funding. They have all been instrumental in removing the backlog of work allowing full-time staff the opportunity to concentrate on your training programs.

Receive a Link to The FIRELINE

To receive a link to The FIRELINE every time it is updated, please e-mail karen.terrell@fire.ca.gov. Write "Fireline Registration" in the message line. Whenever there is something new within State Fire Training, we will send you a heads-up with a link to the announcement.

SFT Staff and Responsibilities

Mike Richwine, Chief State Fire Training Administration	(916) 445-8195 mike.richwine@fire.ca.gov
Michelle Aulisio, Management Services Technician Certification Processing, PACE III, IV, and V	(916) 445-8148 michelle.aulisio@fire.ca.gov
Dolores Blackburn, Retired Annuitant Office Clerk	(916) 445-8131 dolores.blackburn@fire.ca.gov
Jeff Carda, Office Technician Bookstore Clerk	(916) 445-8158 jeff.carda@fire.ca.gov
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Alicia Hamilton, Fire Service Training Specialist Curriculum Development, Policies and Procedures	(916) 445-6267 alicia.hamilton@fire.ca.gov
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Sandy Margullis, Staff Services Analyst EMT-I Program, PACE II, Instructor Orientation	(916) 445-8154 sandy.margullis@fire.ca.gov
Rodney Slaughter, Deputy State Fire Marshal Accredited Academies, Grant Administration	(916) 445-4518 rodney.slaughter@fire.ca.gov
Melinda Smith, Staff Services Analyst Accounting Services	(916) 445-5810 melinda.smith@fire.ca.gov
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Input welcomed

If you would like to contribute suggestions about the future course of State Fire Training functions and programs, please feel free to email us.